

# Appendix H

## 2003/04 budget setting: feedback on costs of cleansing contracts

### Summary of responses to key question: how should new cleansing contracts be paid for?

Mr E K: If a public service is not sufficiently used to be more or less self funding then it becomes a luxury with few people benefitting at the expense of everybody else...You cannot keep raising the council tax at way above inflation rate year after year and expect people to keep dipping into their pockets...I am 100% for funding the new refuse service by cuts in public services rather than increasing council tax.

Ms L G: I strongly object to paying more or losing existing services to pay more for this service.

Ms P Sl: Raise council tax.

T C: Raise council tax. Whereas I do not appreciate paying even more council tax I do expect a much improved service...

Mr S M: Cutting services. Why do we have to bear the cost of the new scheme. If the government has set the target then the government should pay for the scheme not us. If the scheme is to be introduced then we should not pay for it as we already pay enough for sub standard service.

AG M: Cutting services. I pay exhorbitant council tax and get nothing for it, enough is enough.

Ms Y C: Cutting services. Great idea, however as the services is poor already why should we pay more.

Mr D B: Cutting services. There should be no extra burden on the taxpayers. The objective should be achieved by "modernisation" or looking at other proposed expenditure relating to, for example, the seafront strategy and the "cultural hub".

T B: As this is a government scheme I feel very strongly that the money should not be coming from my local council. I feel I pay enough income tax and this is what should be paying for this scheme. Perhaps if they weren't planning on diverting funds from the South up to the North we wouldn't be paying extra!

Mr S C: Cutting services. As our local police force appear to spend most of their time targeting motorists, I feel that this should be cut back rather than raising their funding.

Ms L C: I don't think public services should be cut nor do I feel that council tax should be increased for this service.

D B: Raising council tax. I am very happy to pay an extra 88p per week for a wheelie bin and the recycling service.

Mrs DMG: Yes, I do object to £46 being added to the council tax. There are plenty of people on fixed (and falling) incomes who have to budget carefully with ever increasing costs. Cutting some of your expenditure with printed matter and Councillors expenses might help. The seafront railings, which have spoilt our seafront, were an unnecessary expense. The council tax should be no more than inflation.

Mr A D: I am against any further tax increase.

Mr SCL: If the introduction of 'wheelie' bins is a foregone conclusion, what other public services are you considering cutting in order to avoid raising the council tax? For those of us who are struggling to 'make ends meet', this is just something else to make life even more difficult.

Mr TWP: We are not in favour of these proposed extra charges for refuse collections etc, is it such a problem to balance the books??

Mr J G: I would prefer you to cut other current public services rather than raise the EBC element of the council tax. Being a pensioner on a fixed income £46 increase is a lot to me.